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GROUP 1600

CLEAN PARAGRAPHS

ORIGINAL

In the Specification: ✓**Replacement Page 1, paragraph 1, Background.**

D1

Since the invention of magnetic resonance imaging (MRI), a parallel technology of injectable chemicals called contrast agents has developed. Contrast agents play an important role in the practice of medicine in that they help produce more useful MRI images for diagnostic purposes. In particular, two classes of imaging agents have been developed and adopted in clinical practice. These are: low molecular weight gadolinium complexes such as Magnavist[®]; and colloidal iron oxides. Neither of these two types of agents is ideal. Problems encountered with these agents are shown in Table 1, and include: expense of components; inefficiency of synthesis; loss of coating if sterilized by autoclaving; narrow range of organ uptake for purposes of imaging; side-effects; restriction of use to either first pass or equilibrium dosing; and others that are described herein. Agents that overcome these problems, and that combine the properties of these two types of contrast agents, are highly desirable.

Replacement Page 3, first paragraph (partial - continues from previous page),**Summary.**

D2

producing a derivatized reduced polysaccharide iron oxide complex, and sterilizing the complex by autoclaving. According to this method, producing the complex can include derivatizing a reduced polysaccharide by carboxyalkylation, for example, wherein the